

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

This application is a Divisional of U.S. Patent Application Serial No.09/008,983, filed January 20, 1998, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/035,948, filed January 21,1997.

Prior to examination of this application, please amend the claims as reflected in the Listing of Claims which begins on Page 2 of this paper.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application.